

TELEVISION FUNCTIONALITY ON A CHIP

Inventors: David A. Baer
Jeff Tingley
Aleksandr Movshovich
Brad Grossman
Chengfuh Jeffrey Tang
Chuck Monahan
Darren D. Neuman
David Chao Hua Wu
Francis Cheung
Greg A. Kranawetter
Hoang Nhu
Hsien-Chih Jim Tseng
Iue-Shuenn Chen
James Sweet
Jeffrey S. Bauch
Keith LaRell Klingler
Patrick Law
Rajesh Mamidwar
Brian F. Schoner
Dan Simon
Sang Van Tran
Shawn V. Johnson
Steven T. Jaffe
Thu T. Nguyen
Ut Nguyen
Yao-Hua Steven Tseng
Brad Delanghe
Ben Giese
Jason Demas
Lakshman Ramakrishnan
Sandeep Bhatia
Guang-Ting Shih
Tracy Denk

CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

[001] This application claims the benefit of priority to the following U.S. Provisional Patent Applications: Application No. 60/451,265, filed Mar. 4, 2003; Application No.

60/467,574, filed May 5, 2003; Application No. 60/495,129, filed Aug. 15, 2003; Application No. 60/495,127, filed Aug. 15, 2003; and Application No. 60/495,121, filed Aug. 15, 2003. All of which are incorporated herein by reference in their entireties.

[002] This application is a continuation in part of the following U.S. Patent Applications: Application No. 10/448,062, filed May 30, 2003; Application No. 10/629,781, filed July 30, 2003; Application No. 10/640,687, filed Aug. 14, 2003; Application No. 10/640,659, filed Aug. 14, 2003; Application No. 10/640,686, filed Aug. 14, 2003; Application No. 10/640,666, filed Aug. 14, 2003; Application No. 10/641,031, filed Aug. 15, 2003; Application No. 10/640,632, filed Aug. 14, 2003; Application No. 10/640,649, filed Aug. 14, 2003; Application No. 10/641,103, filed Aug. 15, 2003; Application No. 10/640,648, filed Aug. 14, 2003; Application No. 10/640,627, filed Aug. 14, 2003; Application No. 10/641,160, filed Aug. 15, 2003; Application No. 10/629,797, filed July 30, 2003; Application No. 10/641,295, filed Aug. 15, 2003; Application No. 10/640,682, filed Aug. 14, 2003; Application No. 10/640,684, filed Aug. 14, 2003; Application No. 10/641,004, filed Aug. 15, 2003; Application No. 10/641,161, filed Aug. 15, 2003; Application No. 10/646,833, filed Aug. 25, 2003; Application No. 10/646,721, filed Aug. 25, 2003; and Application No. 10/641,034, filed Aug. 15, 2003. All of which are incorporated herein by reference in their entireties.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Field of Invention

[003] The present invention relates to television technology, and more particularly to providing television functionality on a single integrated circuit chip.

Background

[004] Television systems have become increasingly complex as consumers continue to demand greater functionality and performance from television sets. Furthermore, the miniaturization of television systems demands that while complexity is increasing, that the size of electronic circuitry to support this complexity and performance must be reduced. At the same time, market forces continue to drive prices lower for television sets. Current electronic circuitry to support the functionality needed to receive audio and video signals that are either analog or digital and process those signals to provide a signal suitable for display on a television often consist of several integrated circuits. Furthermore, additional functionality related to value added features, such as teletext or e-commerce often requires additional integrated circuits.

[005] What is needed is a system for providing television functionality and ancillary functionality on a single integrated chip to reduce costs and support the continued miniaturization of electronics for televisions.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

[006] The present invention provides a cost effective approach for implementing television functionality on a single integrated circuit chip (referred to herein as "TV on a Chip" or TVOC). A TVOC includes functionality to receive and display television signals in a variety of input and output formats. A TVOC can be used in set-top boxes for

cable and satellite television, or directly within a television. All or substantially all functionality provided can be provided on a single integrated circuit. TVOC includes one or more of a data transport module, an IF demodulator, a digital audio engine, an analog audio engine, a digital video engine, and an analog video engine. The TVOC also includes three sets of interfaces including output interfaces, control interfaces and ancillary interfaces.

[007] The present invention addresses the conflicting consumer demands of television system miniaturization and reducing the cost of televisions.

[008] Further embodiments, features, and advantages of the present inventions, as well as the structure and operation of the various embodiments of the present invention, are described below.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE FIGURES

[009] The invention is described with reference to the accompanying drawings. In the drawings, like reference numbers indicate identical or functionally similar elements. The drawing in which an element first appears is indicated by the left-most digit in the corresponding reference number.

[0010] FIG. 1 is a functional block diagram of a television on a chip, according to an embodiment of the invention.

[0011] FIG. 2 is a detailed functional block diagram of a television on a chip, according to an embodiment of the invention.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

[0012] While the present invention is described herein with reference to illustrative embodiments for particular applications, it should be understood that the invention is not limited thereto. Those skilled in the art with access to the teachings provided herein will recognize additional modifications, applications, and embodiments within the scope thereof and additional fields in which the present invention would be of significant utility.

[0013] FIG. 1 provides a functional block diagram of television on a chip (TVOC) 100, according to an embodiment of the invention. A TVOC includes the functionality necessary to receive and display television signals in a variety of input and output formats. A TVOC can be used in set-top boxes for cable and satellite television, or directly within a television. All functionality provided can be provided on a single integrated circuit. TVOC 100 includes data transport 105, IF demodulator 110, digital audio engine 115, analog audio engine 120, digital video engine 125, analog video engine 130, output interfaces 135, control interfaces 140, ancillary interfaces 145, and system controller 150.

[0014] Data transport 105 can receive digital video data and performs preprocessing of the data for use throughout other TVOC 100 components.

[0015] IF demodulator 110 contains functionality to receive analog television signals and perform processing to produce digital and analog video and audio signals for use within the other components of TVOC 100.

[0016] Digital audio engine 115 can process digital audio signals, while analog audio engine 120 can process analog audio signals. Similarly, digital video engine 125 can process digital video signals, while analog video engine 130 can process analog video signals. Digital video engine 125 and analog video engine 130 also have the capability to process graphics, and integrate those graphics within the video and audio outputs.

[0017] Output interfaces 135 can output various types of analog and digital audio and video signals. Control interfaces 140 can provide a means for external control of TVOC 100. Ancillary interfaces 145 can provide access to various types of ancillary input and output devices, such as access to establish an Ethernet connection with the TVOC 100. System controller 150 can control overall operation of the circuitry within TVOC 100.

[0018] FIG. 2 provides a detailed functional block diagram of TVOC 200, according to an embodiment of the invention. TVOC implementations will vary depending on the particular environment in which a TVOC will be used. For example, depending on the country of use, a TVOC may be required to support different types of video or audio standards. Additionally, a TVOC may be required to support standard definition, high definition or both types of television signal broadcasts. Increasingly, cable set top box

and television set manufacturers require that chips and chip sets support a wide range of standards and uses. TVOC 200 provides an embodiment of a TVOC that provides a set of functionalities that meets this need. TVOC 200 is provided to illustrate one embodiment of a TVOC, and is not intended to be limiting. Based on the teachings herein, individuals skilled in the relevant arts will be able to ascertain alternative embodiments to TVOC 200. It is intended that these embodiments are within the scope of the invention.

[0019] As in the case of TVOC 100, TVOC 200 includes input elements, video and graphics processing elements, audio processing elements, control elements, control interfaces, output interfaces and ancillary interfaces. Additionally, TVOC 200 includes elements that further facilitate the integration of television functionality on a single integrated circuit.

[0020] The input elements of TVOC 200 include intermediate frequency (IF) demodulator 202 and data transport module 204. IF demodulator 202 operates on an analog television signal to produce a digital baseband composite video broadcasting signal (CVBS) and a digital audio signal, such as a monaural or Broadcast Television System Committee (BTSC) baseband multiplex signal. The analog input signals can include, among others, National TV System Committee (NTSC), Phase Alternation Line Rate (PAL), and Sequential Couleur Avec Memoire (SECAM) television signals.

[0021] In an embodiment, IF demodulator 202 is optionally a digital IF demodulator that receives and demodulates an analog IF input signal to produce a digital audio signal and a digital video signal. Where the analog IF input signal is a television signal or channel that has been down-converted from RF, IF demodulator 110 includes an A/D converter, a first digital complex mixer, a second digital complex mixer, and various digital filters. The A/D converter receives the analog IF input signal and converts it to digital. The first digital complex mixer receives the output of the A/D converter and down-converts the output of the A/D converter to baseband.

[0022] Additionally, a picture carrier is recovered from the output of the first digital complex mixer, and fed back to a direct digital synthesizer to control the tuning accuracy of the first digital complex mixer. More specifically, a feedback loop is configured so that

the picture carrier is down-converted to DC so as to control the tuning accuracy of the first digital complex mixer. The complex output of the first complex mixer is further processed using Nyquist filtering and other filtering to recover the digital video signal. Such filtering may be accomplished using digital signal processing techniques. The digital audio signal is recovered by further processing the output of the first digital complex mixer. A digital IF demodulator embodiment of IF demodulator 202 is further taught in copending application, U.S. Patent Application No. 10/448,062, filed May 30, 2003, which is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety.

[0023] In an embodiment, IF demodulator 202 can optionally include a FM demodulation system for approximating $y(n)=1/(x(n))$, where $x(n)=I^2(n)+Q^2(n)$. A secondary audio program (SAP) signal received must be processed in order to generate a pulse code modulated signal (PCM) output signal. Typically, a SAP signal is band pass filtered, FM demodulated, and processed using a variable de-emphasis algorithm to produce the PCM. The FM demodulation can be carried out using an equation $FM(n) = [I(n)Q'(n) - I'(n)Q(n)] / [I^2(n)+Q^2(n)]$. Conventional systems typically calculate the numerator and ignore the denominator because the division is too complex. This is because conventional processors do not have enough hardware and/or software support to perform such complex division. Thus, a noise signal received by a FM demodulator is passed on in the FM(n) output signal because the denominator is not calculated along with the numerator. This noise can cause problems down the line during subsequent signal processing.

[0024] The optional FM demodulation system described above addresses this problem by approximating the denominator during demodulation of an FM signal. The FM demodulation system receives a prior estimated value of $1/x(n)$ and a present value of $x(n)$. The FM demodulation system also adjusts the prior estimated value of $1/x(n)$ to compensate for an error between the prior estimated value of $1/x(n)$ and the present value of $1/x(n)$. The FM demodulation system outputs an adjusted prior estimated value of $1/x(n)$ as the present value of $1/x(n)$. An FM demodulation system is further taught in copending application, U.S. Patent Application No. 10/629,797, filed July 30, 2003, which is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety.

[0025] Data transport module 204 receives compressed video data, normally in the form of MPEG or DIRECTTV transport streams. Data transport module 204 parses the streams and performs preprocessing. Data transport module 204 can optionally support personal video recording.

[0026] In an embodiment, data transport module 204 can optionally include a video data stream front end processor. When program channels are transmitted to customer premise devices, such as a television or cable set top box, data packets for program channels are typically multiplexed together into a video data stream. A common way to identify packets within a video data stream that are associated with a particular program channel uses program identification (PID) information. This approach is referred to herein as a PID parsing approach. In this approach, each packet within a video data stream contains a PID that contains information that tells a customer premise device which channel a particular packet of information is associated with.

[0027] In another approach, data packets within a video data stream that are associated with a particular program are allocated within particular time slots of a data frame. With this approach a distribution device, such as a cable system headend, organizes data packets into frames with packets for a particular program channel located in specific time slots within the frames. This approach is referred to herein as a time division multiplexing approach. An example of this approach is transport stream multiplexing format (TSMF), which has been recently developed by a consortium of television manufacturers for use in Japan. Within this approach it is also common that packets will contain a PID. The video data stream front end processor provides an efficient way to demultiplex video signals that use both a PID and are multiplexed using a time division multiplexing approach.

[0028] The video data stream front end processor includes synchronizers, parsers, demultiplexers, and an input buffer. Each demultiplexer within the system includes a header detect module, a slot map module, a frame sync module and a packet accept module. The video data stream front end processor analyzes the PID and slot location for each packet received in a data stream, and based on the PID and slot location a packet is either accepted or rejected. The video data stream front end processor is further taught in

co-pending application, U.S. Patent Application No. 10/640,684, filed Aug. 14, 2003, which is herein incorporated by reference in its entirety.

[0029] In an embodiment, data transport module 204 can optionally include a packet substitution module for substituting packets into a data stream. When program channels are transmitted to customer premise devices, such as a television or cable set top box, data packets for program channels are typically multiplexed together into a video data stream. When the video data stream is received by a customer premise device, the customer premise device typically parses the incoming stream to retain only those packets that pertain to the channel of interest to be viewed or recorded.

[0030] The parsing process can create gaps in the data stream where packets associated with channels other than the channel of interest were located. The parsing of the stream potentially leaves time gaps where packets were removed. As the complexity of data processing systems increases, the need for a robust and flexible approach to substitute packets into a data stream, such as a video data stream, increases without impairing performance. In particular, system and management information associated with a data stream is likely to change as a result of adjustment in encryption or organization of packets within a data stream, for example. Moreover, different types of information may need to be inserted into a data stream, and the different types of information may have different timing requirements. Different types of information can include, for example, system information for video control, system information for audio control, overall system management information, or customer specific application information.

[0031] The packet substitution module provides a system for efficiently substituting data packets into a data stream. The packet substitution module includes a set of packet buffers that buffer packets to be substituted into the data stream. The packet substitution module also includes a multiplexer that obtains packets from the set of packet buffers and substitutes packets into the data stream. The operation of the multiplexer is controlled by a packet substitution controller. A direct memory access engine provides packets for insertion to the packet buffers based on a link list buffer control that is coupled the direct memory access engine. The packet substitution module is further taught in co-pending

application, U.S. Patent Application No.: 10/640,684, filed Aug. 14, 2003, which is herein incorporated by reference in its entirety.

[0032] In an embodiment, data transport module 204 can optionally include a media processing system for processing multiple program channels containing one or more data packets. TVOC 200 may use a system time clock that is independent of the system time clock of a transmitting system. Because these system time clocks are asynchronous, the receiver clock may run at a slightly different rate than the transmitter clock. For example, when the receiver clock runs slower than the transmitter clock, data packets arrive faster than the receiver processes them causing the input buffer to overflow. In addition, the lack of precise timing between the transmitter and receiver creates deleterious effects on video display such as lack of synchronization between video and audio. A common technique to minimize the impact of these timing errors is to synchronize the system time clock of the receiver to the system time clock of the transmitting device. This clock "locking" technique reduces timing errors associated with data packets from the transmitter on which the receiver clock is locked.

[0033] However, in modern systems, data from multiple transmission sources (for example, multiple programs) are often multiplexed together in a single transport stream. If traditional clock locking techniques were used, TVOC 200 would be able to synchronize to the system time clock of only one of these transmission sources. As a result, the data streams from the other transmission sources having different system time clocks are susceptible to the timing errors discussed above.

[0034] In addition, while being processed by the receiver, data packets may experience delay. This internal receiver delay introduces error into the clock reference values being forwarded to the downstream systems and applications. This error impacts the ability of the downstream system or application to synchronize its system time clock with the system time clock of the original transmitting system. The media processing system addresses these challenges. The media processing system includes a processor, a set of timestamp insertion modules coupled to the processor. The number of timestamp insertion modules would be equal to the number of program channels being processed. Each timestamp insertion module would include a local program reference clock, a

synchronizer that synchronized the local program reference clock to a clock of a device transmitting the program being processed, a local program timestamp generator and an input buffer coupled to the timestamp insertion modules. The media processing system is further taught in co-pending application, U.S. Patent Application No.: 60/495,129, filed Aug. 15, 2003, which is herein incorporated by reference in its entirety.

[0035] The video processing elements of the TVOC 200 include analog video decoder 210, digital video decoder 212, video and graphics processing module 214, 3D engine 215, 2D engine 216 and video encoder 218. Analog video decoder 210 supports high quality decoding of a standard definition composite video broadcasting signal (CVBS) and S-Video signal. Digital video decoder 212 decodes video signals that comply with the International Telecommunications Union (ITU) standard ITU-R-656 at varying resolutions including 525i, 625i and 240p.

[0036] In an embodiment, analog video decoder 210 and/or digital video decoder 212 can optionally include a 2-D adaptive comb filter. A composite video signal is the sum of a luminance (brightness) signal and a chrominance (color) signal. These signals are also referred to as luma and chroma signals, respectively. The frequency ranges of the luma and chroma signals are designed to overlap. A problem created by overlapping the luma and chroma frequency spectra is that it is difficult to separate them completely.

[0037] 2-D adaptive comb filter addresses this challenge. 2-D adaptive comb filter filters the video information both horizontally along the scan lines and vertically between the horizontal scan lines. To filter horizontally, a low-pass or bandpass filter is used. To filter vertically, a combing procedure is used. Adaptive logic solves the problem of combing at a vertical color transition point. The logic examines three successive horizontal scan lines simultaneously. At a vertical transition between two colors, either the top two or bottom two scan lines will usually be the same. Initially, for example, the top two of three scan lines will be the same color. The logic directs those lines to a digital version of the comb filter. When the scan moves down another line, the scan line triplet includes a new bottom line. The bottom two scan lines of the new triplet will have the new color, and the bottom lines will be directed to the comb filter. In this manner, two lines with different colors are not input to the comb filter at a transition boundary.

[0038] The 2D adaptive comb filter includes a band limiting filter, a decision stage, a blending stage, and a processor. A composite video signal including luma and chroma subcarriers enters the band limiting filter after passing through an analog-to-digital converter. After band limiting filter, the original signal is split among three different paths. The first path is a decision stage. The decision stage includes a wide bandpass filter, interpolator, and chroma decision logic. The second path is the blending stage. The blending stage includes a narrow bandpass filter, a chroma comb filter, and a blending module. The third path leads directly to the processor. The 2D adaptive comb filter is further taught in co-pending application, U.S. Patent Application No. 10/641,160, filed Aug. 15, 2003, which is herein incorporated by reference in its entirety.

[0039] In an embodiment, digital video decoder 212 can optionally include an artificial time stamp module that generates pseudo MPEG information from received digital video information, such as DV25 and DV50 information generated by digital video cameras. This DV25 and DV50 information lacks timestamps used by MPEG signal processors. An artificial time stamp module generates timestamps that are inserted into the DV25 or DV50 information, thereby facilitating decoding by an MPEG signal processor. An artificial time stamp module is further taught in co-pending application, U.S. Patent Application No. 10/640,648, filed Aug. 14, 2003, which is herein incorporated by reference in its entirety.

[0040] In an embodiment, digital video decoder 212 can optionally include a teletext decoder system for processing teletext message sequences. The teletext decoder provides a system for efficiently decoding and detecting valid teletext message sequences. The teletext decoder system includes a correlator, a sine wave generator, two time window generators, a phase detector, a framing code search engine, and a match filter. The teletext decoder system determines the phase of the run-in burst of a teletext message sequence, identifies the framing code location, decides whether the teletext sequence is valid and decodes the teletext data for display. The teletext decoder system is further taught in copending applications, U.S. Provisional Patent Application No.: 60/467,574, filed May 5, 2003, which is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety, and in U.S.

Patent Application No.: 10/629,781, filed July 30, 2003, which is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety.

[0041] Video and graphics processing module 214 includes a variety of functions for processing video and graphics, and for integrating video and graphics. In particular, video and graphics processing module 214 can optionally include MPEG, graphics and video feeders; video scalers; capture blocks; and/or video compositors for combining video and graphics. 3D engine 215 provides low bandwidth three dimensional (3D) graphics rendering for set-top boxes and television displays without sacrificing the performance needed for Internet e-commerce 3D applications and games.

[0042] In an embodiment, video and graphics processing module 214 can optionally include a combined color look-up and gamma correction system. Color look-up table and gamma correction routines are used to improve video graphics displayed on a television. The combined color look-up and gamma correction system includes a memory having color look up table (CLUT) parameters and gamma correction parameters stored therein. The combined color look-up and gamma correction system includes an input matrix configured to receive first and second type pixel data. Memory is coupled to the input matrix and configured to associate one of the first and second type pixel data with the stored CLUT parameters and associate the other of the first and second type pixel data with the stored gamma correction parameters.

[0043] Two primary types of graphics image format exist. In one format, the pixel contains all the color component information (e.g., YUV422 or ARGB8888). In the other format, the pixel contains an index (e.g., CLUT format). In order to support CLUT format and Gamma-correction function, conventionally two separate RAMs were needed. In the combined color look-up and gamma correction system, however, the CLUT function is combined with the gamma-correction function by applying a gamma-correction equation on the color look-up-table.

[0044] The combined color look-up and gamma correction system provides one RAM for sharing both CLUT and gamma correction functions. More specifically, one RAM arrangement is integrated such that the same RAM can be used for CLUT + Gamma-Correction (for CLUT format) or just Gamma-Correction (for other formats). This RAM

arrangement provides economies in terms of space savings on the integrated TVOC 200 circuit, by providing for a more efficient process to implement CLUT and gamma correction functions. Additionally, the combined color look-up and gamma correction system provides a more efficient software setup that does not require special arrangements or address swapping. Combined color look-up and gamma correction system is further taught in co-pending application, U.S. Patent Application No. 10/640,666, filed Aug. 14, 2003, which is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety.

[0045] 2D engine 216 provides two dimensional graphics processing. Video encoder 218 encodes processed video signals for output to a display. Video encoder 218 can optionally support both standard and high definition video signals. Video encoder 218 supports a variety of analog video standards (e.g., NTSC, PAL, SECAM, 480i, 480p, 720p, and 1080i), as well as digital video standards (e.g., ITU-R-656 and support for digital video interface (DVI) encoding). Additionally, video encoder 218 can receive video blanking interval (VBI) signals. Video encoder 218 combines these VBI signals with appropriate lines of video to support arrangements, such as closed captioning and teletext.

[0046] In an embodiment, video encoder 218 can optionally include a timing generator that generates time-dependent control signals for video signals. Such control signals support outputting video signals in different formats and to implement a variety of value added features including, for example, copy protection features, such as those contained within MACROVISION copy protection process standards. MACROVISION is a trademark of Macrovision Corporation. The timing generator includes a set of microsequencers, a programmable combinational logic (PCL) module, shared memory, an arbiter for sharing of memory by the microsequencers, stacks containing registers for microsequencer control, and a control interface. The timing generator can provide control signals for video signals, implement the MACROVISION copy protection process, and provide other value added features. Flags generated by the microsequencers are processed to generate one or more control signals used to support the outputting of video signals including those requiring MACROVISION copy protection. The generation of control signals is software controlled, thereby allowing the system to be

reconfigured in real time, and permitting modifications to reflect changes in the MACROVISION copy protection process and other value added features for video signals. The invention provides an efficient way to flexibly produce time-dependent control signals for video signals. The timing generator is further taught in co-pending application, U.S. Patent Application No. 10/640,627, filed Aug. 14, 2003, which is hereby incorporated in its entirety.

[0047] In an embodiment, video encoder 218 can optionally include an MPAA (Motion Picture Association of America) HDTV (High Definition Television) copy protection filter system. The MPAA has released a set of standards to provide for copy protection of HDTV signals. In effect, these standards degrade or reduce the resolution of HDTV signals. The MPAA HDTV copy protection filter system provides an efficient system to reduce the resolution of a digital video signal to comply with the MPAA copy protection standards by integrating copy protection filters with elements of video encoder 218. In an embodiment, the copy-protection filter is a low-pass horizontal filter. In another embodiment, the copy-protection filter is a low-pass vertical filter. In yet another embodiment, a combination horizontal and vertical filter are used. For each filter, any number of taps may be used.

[0048] The copy-protection filter may be placed in an analog data path in the video encoder before the signal is converted to an analog signal. In another embodiment, a digital data path is coupled to the analog data path. The copy-protection filter can be placed on the analog data path after the connection between the analog and digital data paths. In yet another embodiment, a second copy-protection filter can be placed in the digital data path. The second copy-protection filter may be operated independently of the first copy-protection filter. In a further embodiment, the copy-protection filter may be combined with other filters in the system. In still another embodiment, the copy-protection filter may be combined with a video scaler before the initial video data stream enters the compositor. The MPAA HDTV copy protection filter system is further taught in co-pending application, U.S. Patent Application No.: 10/641,031, filed Aug. 15, 2003, which is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety.

[0049] The audio processing elements of TVOC 200 include audio decoder 220 and audio processor 222. Audio decoder 220 can receive a baseband analog BTSC composite signal that was extracted by IF demodulator 202 and process the received signal to recover the main, stereo and SAP channels contained within the original signal. Audio decoder 220 can support BTSC and CPZ503 (used in Japan) standards for composite signals.

[0050] In an embodiment, an optional digital interface is coupled between IF demodulator 202 and a digital signal processor (DSP) within audio decoder 220. A potentiometer or implementation of an automatic gain control (AGC) algorithm in a digital signal processor within audio decoder 202 can be used to adjust the signal levels of right and left stereo signals. When a digital interface is used, IF demodulator 202 has an output that is scalable to ensure compatibility with different down-stream DSP devices. Additionally, the output of the IF demodulator 202 is a digital signal, including composite BTSC samples that are compatible with multi-channel television sound (MTS) standards. Because the output includes digital composite samples, the digital interface can provide signals to the DSP in the digital domain. By using a digital interface, conversion mismatches associated with an analog interface are substantially reduced. The audio decoder digital interface is further taught in co-pending application, U.S. Patent Application No. 10/646,721, filed Aug. 25, 2003, which is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety.

[0051] In an embodiment, audio decoder 220 can optionally include a signal mode detection system. The signal mode detection system can be used, for example, to distinguish mono, dual mono and stereo modes in an audio transmission. The signal mode detection system can include a first bandpass filter, a first envelope tracker coupled to the first bandpass filter, a second bandpass filter, a second envelope tracker coupled to the second bandpass filter, and a decision circuit coupled to both the first and second envelope trackers. The decision circuit is configured to process decision logic to determine whether an audio transmission is in mono, dual mono, or stereo mode. The signal mode detection system is particularly useful for processing Japanese Broadcast Television Systems Committee (JBTSC) standard audio broadcast signals, which have

three modes of transmission. The signal mode detection system is further taught in co-pending application, U.S. Patent Application No. 10/641,004, filed Aug. 15, 2003, which is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety.

[0052] In an embodiment, audio decoder 220 can optionally include a JBTSC signal separation processor. Three channels exist within a JBTSC signal – a main channel, a sub channel and a control signal. The main channel includes the audio signal. The sub channel includes the difference between a right and left channel stereo signal contained in the main channel. The control signal includes information indicating the mode of transmission. The JBTSC signal separation processor supports the processing of all three channels. The JBTSC signal separation processor includes a sub path, a main path and a separator. The sub path includes a bandpass filter, a first filter path, a second filter path, an FM demodulator, a lowpass filter and a de-emphasis circuit. The JBTSC signal separation processor provides optimal separation of left and right stereo signals within a JBTSC. The JBTSC signal separation processor is further taught in co-pending application, U.S. Patent Application No. 10/641,161, filed Aug. 15, 2003, which is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety.

[0053] In an embodiment, audio decoder 220 can optionally include a digital signal processor (DSP) decoder having an execution unit, an address generator and an instruction set that can be used to decode input signals. The programmable address generator enables the execution unit to perform register addressing, indirect addressing and immediate addressing. An advantage of a DSP is that it is reprogrammable and updateable. In other embodiments with different program instructions, a DSP decoder can also be used within digital video decoder 212 and analog video decoder 210. The DSP decoder is further taught in co-pending application, U.S. Patent Application No.: 10/641,295, filed Aug. 15, 2003, which is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety.

[0054] In one application of the DSP decoder, a sampled signal can be converted to a higher data rate signal. In signal processing, sampled signals often need to be converted to higher or lower sample rates. Conventional sample rate converters (SRCs) suffer from a variety of drawbacks. For example, conventional SRCs typically interpolate between existing sample points to obtain new sample points. The interpolation is typically

performed using known, pre-determined, fixed ratios between the lower data rate and the higher data rate. Results are then clocked out at the higher data rate. Such an interpolation is not performed in real time. Thus, when the higher data rate clock is affected by jitter or small/large frequency variations, for example, the higher data rate output does not necessarily track the lower data rate data.

[0055] Using the DSP decoder a method can be implemented that addresses these drawbacks. The method to convert a sampled signal to a higher data rate involves receiving conversion pulses having a conversion rate that is higher than a sample rate of the sampled signal. Next, two sample points on either side of a conversion pulse are reconstructed in real time from the sample signal. An amplitude between the two reconstructed sample points is then interpolated. The output of the interpolated amplitude is output in real time. This process is repeated on subsequent conversion pulses, such that the outputted interpolated amplitudes form the higher data rate signal having a data rate equal to the conversion rate. This sample rate conversion method is further taught in co-pending application, U.S. Patent Application No.: 10/641,034, filed Aug. 15, 2003, which is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety.

[0056] Audio processor 222 analyzes and processes audio signals in a variety of formats including Dolby digital and MPEG audio. Audio processor 222 delivers processed audio signals to audio outputs, including digital audio port 258 and analog audio port 259.

[0057] The control interfaces can include DDR—DRAM controller 240, EJTAG module 242, peripheral interfaces 244, and EBI interface 246. DDR-DRAM controller 240 supports the use of external DDR-DRAM. EJTAG module 242 supports advanced debugging features, including software debug of user and kernel code. Peripheral interfaces 244 provide a range of interfaces to support smart card usage, and the like. EBI (external bus interface) interface 246 supports the connection of external SRAMs, flash memories, EPROMs, and interfaces with additional external peripherals.

[0058] The output interfaces can include S-Video composite interface 250, DVI interface 252, 656 Interface 254, RF Mod interface 256, digital audio port 258 and analog audio port 259. The S-Video composite interface 250 can output video signals in a variety of formats including SCART1, S-Video, and composite video (CVBS) outputs. DVI

interface 252 provides an output interface for DVI signals. 656 Interface 254 provides an output interface for analog video signals that comply with the ITU-R-656 standard.

[0059] RF Mod interface 256 provides an output interface for an analog composite television signal which is suitable for demodulation by a television demodulator. Digital audio port 258 and analog audio port 259 provide interfaces for digital and analog audio signals, respectively.

[0060] The ancillary interfaces can include V.90 interface 260, USB 2.0 interface 262, Ethernet interface 264, and SATA interface 266. V.90 interface 260 provides an interface to modems using the V.90 standard. Similarly, USB 2.0 interface 262 provides an interface to devices using a USB 2.0 standard. Ethernet interface 264 provides an interface to connect TVOC 200 to an Ethernet or provide Internet connectivity. Finally, SATA interface 266 provides an interface for use with external hard drives.

[0061] System controller 270 provides overall control for TVOC 200.

[0062] Additional optional elements within TVOC 200 that further facilitate the integration of television functionality on a single integrated circuit can include a reset synchronization system. The reset synchronization system synchronizes a reset signal with a local clock within TVOC 200. Proper synchronization of a reset signal with a local clock is important to ensure seamless operation of TVOC 200 during a reset. The reset synchronization system includes a local clock terminal, a reset terminal, a synchronized reset output terminal, and synchronizing circuitry coupled between the clock terminal, the reset terminal, and the synchronized reset output terminal. The synchronizing circuitry synchronizes a received reset signal to the local clock signal and outputs a synchronized reset signal on the synchronized reset output terminal. A reset synchronization system is further taught is co-pending application, U.S. Patent Application No.: 10/640,632, filed Aug. 14, 2003, which is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety.

[0063] Optional elements within TVOC 200 that further facilitate the integration of television functionality on a single integrated circuit further include an I/O (input/output) multiplexing system. Integrated circuits, such as TVOC 200 communicate with other chips through I/O devices (e.g., pins or pads). Because function blocks are becoming

smaller, and the chips denser, there is limited area on the chip for the I/O devices. To compensate for the limited area, groups or sets of the function blocks share the I/O devices. In order to share the I/O devices, a controlling system (e.g., a multiplexer) is used to direct which of the function blocks use the I/O device at a particular time (e.g., during a particular mode of the chip). A wide variety of factors – such as temperature and distance can affect timing control of I/O device signals. The I/O multiplexing system addresses the need to conserve space on TVOC 200 while also ensuring proper timing.

[0064] The I/O multiplexing system includes an input/output device including a bi-directional pad, function blocks coupled to the I/O device and an I/O multiplexing module that controls transmission of the signals between the function blocks and the I/O device using a controller. The I/O multiplexing module can include a data I/O multiplexer and an enable I/O multiplexer coupled to the controller.

[0065] Furthermore, the I/O multiplexing module can include a data re-clocking device coupled to the I/O device, the function blocks, and the data I/O multiplexer. The re-clocking device synchronizes one or more of the signals with a system clock before the one or more signals enter the data I/O multiplexer. In this case, the I/O multiplexing module also includes an enable re-clocking device coupled to the I/O device, the function blocks, and the enable I/O multiplexer. The re-clocking device synchronizes one or more of the signals with a system clock before the one or more signals enter the enable I/O multiplexer. The I/O multiplexing system is further taught in co-pending application, U.S. Patent Application No.: 10/640,649, filed Aug. 14, 2003, which is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety.

[0066] Optional elements within TVOC 200 that further facilitate the integration of television functionality on a single integrated circuit can further include an adaptable strapping system. TVOC 200 can have numerous selectable functions, for example, selectable video encoding standards. In order to properly set the function of TVOC 200, a mode or state can be selected for TVOC 200 based on the product it is incorporated within. The mode or state can be selected using a strapping system (e.g., mode or state setting system) in a variety of ways, including using a dedicated pin, a register control block controlled by software running in the product, or the like. Thus, because a designer

knows what product is being made, when the chip is inserted into the product, a function of the device can be set using a signal that designates a mode or state.

[0067] Using a strapping system, such as the one described herein, is useful because it does not require using a dedicated pin. Pins are in limited supply on a chip, and avoiding having to use one to set a mode of the device is desired. Furthermore, the adaptable strapping system of the present invention allows TVOC 200 to use alternate functions after packaging in real time. The adaptable strapping system includes a control system that controls a mode of TVOC 200, an initialization system that transmits a signal to the control system to initialize TVOC 200, an internal strapping system that transmits a signal to the control system that can be sued to place TVOC 200 in a first state, and an override system that transmits a second signal to the control system to place TVOC 200 in a second state. The adaptable strapping system is further taught in co-pending application, U.S. Patent Application No. 10/641,103, filed Aug. 15, 2003, which is incorporated by reference herein in its entirety.

[0068] Optional elements within TVOC 200 that further facilitate the integration of television functionality on a single integrated circuit can further include a system for multi-channel audio interconnects. Traditional processing of audio signals transferred between audio modules, such as analog-to-digital converters, error correction devices and digital filters, within a printed circuit board or an IC typically requires conversion of the related audio signals to an inter-IC sound (I²S) standard or a similar format. I²S is one technique intended to standardize the format of audio data transferred between these internal components. Components implementing the widely accepted I²S standard convert incoming audio data signals into the I²S format.

[0069] As the speed at which micro-electronic large scale integrated (LSI) devices operate increases, the time required to perform the I²S conversion becomes a critical system limitation. The chip space required to accommodate the three I²S pins has become equally burdensome. Although other serial data bus designs are available, even some with 1-line data links, most are too complex or lack sufficient flexibility for extensive use. The system for multi-channel audio interconnects provides a data bus that can be used to transfer audio data that minimizes the complexities and amount of

hardware required for transferring audio data between modules. A suite of protocols support this bus to more efficiently transfer data between the modules, ultimately reducing the number of chip pins.

[0070] When this embodiment is used, a multi-channel audio interconnect system includes data paths that are configured for transferring audio data between a transmitting module and one or more receiving modules. The multi-channel audio interconnect system includes an encoder positioned within the transmitting module and configured to convert audio data requiring transmission into two-line audio information segments. The audio information segments include a format portion identifying the audio format and a data portion for carrying the audio data. A data line and a synchronization line exist between audio modules. The data line carries the audio information segments, while the synchronization line transmits a number of sync pulses that indicate a start of one of the audio information segments. A decoder is included in a receiving module that interprets the audio information segments and sync pulses. The multi-channel audio interconnect system is further taught in co-pending application, U.S. Patent Application No.: 10/646,833 (Attorney Docket No. 19/646,833), filed Aug. 25, 2003, which is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety.

[0071] Optional elements within TVOC 200 that further facilitate the integration of television functionality on a single integrated circuit can include circuits and methods to enhance scan testing. Scan testing provides an effective means to test the structural integrity of devices, such as flip-flops, within a complex integrated circuit, such as TVOC 200. Within TVOC 200, features may be enabled or disabled depending upon TV manufacturer preferences. This flexibility can make scan testing more complex. Circuits to support scan testing and reduce this complexity can be provided. These circuits are taught in the following co-pending applications, U.S. Patent Application No.: 10/640,687, filed Aug. 14, 2003, U.S. Patent Application No.: 10/640,659, filed Aug. 14, 2003, and U.S. Patent Application No.: 10/640,686, filed Aug. 14, 2003. All of which are incorporated herein by reference in their entireties.

Conclusion

[0072] While various embodiments of the present invention have been described above, it should be understood that they have been presented by way of example, and not limitation. It will be apparent to persons skilled in the relevant art that various changes in form and detail can be made therein without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention.

[0073] The present invention has been described above with the aid of functional building blocks and method steps illustrating the performance of specified functions and relationships thereof. The boundaries of these functional building blocks and method steps have been arbitrarily defined herein for the convenience of the description. Alternate boundaries can be defined so long as the specified functions and relationships thereof are appropriately performed. Any such alternate boundaries are thus within the scope and spirit of the claimed invention. One skilled in the art will recognize that these functional building blocks can be implemented by discrete components, application specific integrated circuits, processors executing appropriate software and the like or any combination thereof. Thus, the breadth and scope of the present invention should not be limited by any of the above-described exemplary embodiments, but should be defined only in accordance with the following claims and their equivalents.